

FREEDOM OF SPEECH/EXPRESSION/ASSEMBLY: PUBLICATIONS CODE

Free inquiry and exchange of ideas are essential parts of a democratic education. The County Board of Education respects students' rights to express ideas and opinions, take stands, and support causes, whether controversial or not, through their speech, their writing, their clothing, and the printed materials they choose to post or distribute.

Student liberties of expression shall be limited only as allowed by law in order to maintain an orderly school environment and to protect the rights, health and safety of all members of the school community.

Students shall be free to post or distribute handbills, leaflets and other printed material in pre-approved areas only, whether produced within or outside of the school. Students may collect signatures on petitions concerning either school or out-of-school issues.

Printed materials or petitions may be distributed only:

1. Before school begins, during lunch time or after dismissal.
2. In locations that do not obstruct the normal flow of traffic within school or at entrances.
3. Without undue noise.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

48907 Exercise of free expression; rules and regulations

51520 Prohibited solicitations on school premises

Perurnal et al v. Saddleback Valley Unified School District, 88 Daily Journal D.A.R. 1426